

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 18, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 910

Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin

February 18, 2005

An act to add Section 13984 to the Government Code, relating to life sciences.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 910, as amended, Mullin. Life sciences: ombudsman.

Existing law establishes in the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency various economic development programs with the purpose of promoting economic development in California.

This bill would establish in the agency the Life Sciences Ombudsman Program and the position of Life Sciences Ombudsman with responsibility to work with the life sciences industry ~~and the Commerce and Economic Development Program to identify incentives provided by the state for life science companies to operate in this state, serve as a liaison between new and expanding life sciences companies and local agencies in connection with licensing and zoning issues, and guide these companies through the permitting process and specified state agencies to identify existing programs that support the life sciences industry, to serve as a resource to new and expanding life sciences companies, to identify incentives provided by the state for life sciences companies to operate in this state, to identify existing community college-based programs for training in the life sciences industry and to serve as a liaison between the state and the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.~~ This bill would authorize the secretary of the agency to accept private sector moneys for this purpose and require that private donations be deposited into

the State Life Sciences Ombudsman Account, which would be established in the Special Deposit Fund. It would provide that, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the secretary may expend the moneys in the account, without regard to fiscal years, for the purposes of these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) California is home to more life science companies than any
4 other state.

5 (b) During the past few years, competition in life sciences has
6 increased from other states and foreign countries that see the
7 potential of biotechnology for their economies.

8 (c) Because California is at a distinct disadvantage in
9 attracting new life science companies to California and in
10 assisting life science companies to expand in California, it is
11 necessary to create a life sciences ombudsman in the Business,
12 Transportation and Housing Agency.

13 SEC. 2. Section 13984 is added to the Government Code, to
14 read:

15 13984. (a) There is hereby established in the Business,
16 Transportation and Housing Agency the Life Sciences
17 Ombudsman Program and the position of Life Sciences
18 Ombudsman.

19 ~~(b) The Life Sciences Ombudsman will work with the life~~
20 ~~sciences industry and economic development programs in the~~
21 ~~agency to do all of the following:~~

22 ~~(1) Identify incentives provided by the state for life science~~
23 ~~companies to operate in this state.~~

24 ~~(2) Serve as a liaison between new and expanding life sciences~~
25 ~~companies and local agencies in connection with licensing and~~
26 ~~zoning issues.~~

27 ~~(3) Guide new and expanding life sciences companies through~~
28 ~~the permitting process.~~

29 *(b) The Life Sciences Ombudsman shall do all of the*
30 *following:*

1 *(1) Work with the life sciences industry, economic*
2 *development programs in the agency, Labor and Workforce*
3 *Development Agency, State Department of Education, and other*
4 *agencies to identify existing programs that support the life*
5 *sciences industry.*

6 *(2) Serve as a resource to new and expanding life sciences*
7 *companies.*

8 *(3) Identify incentives provided by the state for life sciences*
9 *companies to operate in this state.*

10 *(4) Identify existing community college-based programs for*
11 *training in the life sciences industry.*

12 *(5) Serve as a liaison between the state and the California*
13 *Institute for Regenerative Medicine.*

14 (c) Funding for the purposes of this section may come from
15 any source, including, but not limited to, federal funding and
16 private donations. The secretary may accept private sector
17 moneys donated to the state and specified to be for the purposes
18 of the Life Sciences Ombudsman Program and ombudsman
19 position. All private sector moneys shall be deposited into the
20 State Life Sciences Ombudsman Account, which is hereby
21 established in the Special Deposit Fund in the State Treasury.
22 Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the secretary may expend
23 the moneys in the account, without regard to fiscal years, for the
24 purposes of this section and for no other purpose.